(a) whether Railways has floated a global tender for setting up new factories at Majerhat and Dalmianagar for manufacturing of high capacity freight bogies;

(b) if so, the number of freight bogies envisaged to be manufactured from those units;

(c) the total investment and land required for the proposed factories;

(d) whether vacant land of M/s Buru Standard can be utilized for (a) above; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) At this stage there is no such proposal.

(e) Do not arise.

Maintenance of Kalindi Express

3377. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the maintenance of Kalindi Express is not upto the mark;

(b) whether Government is aware that there are large scale malpractices and irregularities by the railway staff and GRP in Kalindi Express and that they sell seats and berths to general ticket holders by ignoring the RAC and wait listed passengers;

(c) whether Government would conduct surprise raids so as to find out the truth; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The maintenance of Kalindi Express is carried out in accordance with extant norms and guidelines for maintenance of coaches as for other Mail/Express trains and no complaints on this matter have been received in the recent past.

(b) to (d) No specific complaints have been received regarding large scale malpractices and irregularities by railway staff and GRP in Kalindi Express in allotting seats/berths. However, some cases of staff indulging in irregularities with regard to allotment of seats/berths on trains do come to notice. Regular drives/checks are conducted and staff found indulging in such malpractices is taken up severely under relevant rules.

Ongoing works and projects in different zones

3378. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: